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EPA ELECTRONIC MAIL MESSAGE

Date: 28-Mar-1993 10:30pm EST
From: REGION TAT
REGION03.TAT
Dept: (OSWER,OERR,ERD) (C)
Tel No: 609-461-4003

TO: See Below

Subject: Fairfax County, Colonial Pipeline Spill, Polrep #1

POLREP 001

RESTON HOSPITAL CENTER
813 TOWN CENTER PARKWAY
RESTON, FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA 22091
ATTN: DENNIS CARNEY, CHARLIE KLEEMAN, DEBORAH DIETRICH

SITUATION (1800 HOURS, SUNDAY, 28 MARCH 1993)

- A. AT 0848 HOURS THIS DATE, A 36-INCH PIPELINE TRANSPORTING #2 HEATING OIL RUPTURED AND RELEASED APPROXIMATELY 8,000 BARRELS OF PRODUCT TO THE ENVIRONMENT.
- B. COLONIAL PIPELINE OFFICIALS NOTED DROP IN LINE PRESSURE AND SHUT OFF FLOW TO BREAK AREA. COLONIAL BEGAN TO RECEIVE ODOR COMPLAINT CALLS FROM FAIRFAX FIRE DEPARTMENT. AT APPROXIMATELY 0900 HOURS THIS DATE, FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT CONFIRMED LOCATION OF RELEASE.
- C. PRODUCT RELEASED TO THE ENVIRONMENT FLOWED OVERGROUND AND THROUGH STORM SEWER TO SUGARLAND RUN CREEK, A TRIBUTARY TO THE POTOMAC RIVER. INITIAL BOOMING OPERATIONS WERE PERFORMED AT SEVERAL LOCATIONS ALONG THE CREEK BUT PRODUCT CONTINUED TO FLOW DOWNSTREAM.
- D. COLONIAL PIPELINE MOBILIZED RESOURCES TO AID FAIRFAX COUNTY IN MITIGATION OPERATIONS. FAIRFAX COUNTY REQUESTED STATE AND FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.
- E. DOWNSTREAM JURISDICTION/WATER INTAKES WERE CONTACTED AND APPRISED OF THE SITUATION. *NEAREST INTAKE IS LOCATED ONE MILE DOWNSTREAM FROM JUNCTION OF SUGARLAND RUN CREEK AND POTOMAC.
- F. CONTAINMENT AND REMOVAL OPERATIONS WERE HAMPERED BY HIGH WATERS AND STRONG CURRENTS. WEATHER REMAINS COOL WITH OCCASIONAL DRIZZLE; TEMPERATURES IN LOW 40S.
- G. OSC AND TAT DISPATCHED TO SPILL AT 1130 HOURS THIS DATE. OSC AND TAT ARRIVED ONSITE AT 1400 HOURS.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN

- A. OSC AND TAT BRIEFED BY FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT ON CURRENT SITUATION. OSC ASSUMED JOINT COMMAND WITH FAIRFAX COUNTY. OSC AND FAIRFAX COUNTY DEVELOPED CONTAINMENT PRIORITIES AS FOLLOWS: (1) PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH (WATER INTAKES); (2) PROTECT SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS (WETLANDS); (3) MAINTAIN SAFE CLEANUP OPERATIONS FOR RESPONSE

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PERSONNEL. CURRENT OPERATIONAL STRATEGY WAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS: (1) ATTEMPT TO STRENGTHEN CONTAINMENT AT ESTABLISHED LOCATIONS ON CREEK; (2) WATER INTAKE AUTHORITIES RENOTIFIED AND INSTRUCTED TO SHUT DOWN INTAKES ALLOWING CONTAMINATED MATERIAL TO PASS IF CREEK CONTAINMENT FAILS. CURRENT WATER CONDITIONS IN POTOMAC PROHIBIT CONTAINMENT OR DIVERSION OPERATIONS.

- B. OSC REQUEST COAST GUARD STRIKE TEAM TO RESPOND TO SPILL.
- C. COLONIAL PIPELINE AND FAIRFAX COUNTY MOBILIZE HEAVY EQUIPMENT TO CREEK FOR UNDERFLOW DAM CONSTRUCTION.
- D. AT 1800 HOURS LEADING EDGE OF SHEEN REPORTED AT POTOMAC, MAIN SLUG THREE HOURS BEHIND LEADING EDGE.
- E. NEAREST WATER INTAKE NOTIFIED STATIONS PERSONNEL AT INTAKE TO MONITOR FOR CONTAMINATED MATERIAL WHEN CONTAMINATED MATERIAL ARRIVES INTAKES TO BE SHOT DOWN.
- F. OSC NOTIFIED MSO BALTIMORE OF SHEEN IN POTOMAC.

III. FUTURE PLANS

- A. MITIGATION EFFORTS TO CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT.
- B. OSC TO MAINTAIN JOINT COMMAND AND POSSIBLY ASSUME OVERALL COMMAND WHEN CONTAMINATED MATERIAL PASSES COUNTY BOUNDARIES.
- C. OSC AND TAT TO MAINTAIN PRESENCE THROUGHOUT CLEANUP OPERATIONS
- D. OPERATIONAL CONTROL TO BE PASSED TO COLONIAL PIPELINE WHEN SUFFICIENT MANPOWER/RESOURCES ARRIVE ON SCENE.
- D. PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASED TO BE DRAFTED BY ON SCENE EPA PIO.

KEVIN KOOB, OSC
U.S. EPA REGION III
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Distribution:

TO: KEVIN KOOB	(KOOB.KEVIN)
TO: CHARLIE KLEEMAN	(KLEEMAN.CHARLIE)
TO: ERD /OERR	(ERD/OERR)
TO: RRC OFFICE	(RRC)
TO: REGION TAT	(REGION03.TAT)
CC: Dennis Carney	(PAPER MAIL)

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